

Revenue (1931) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 1523

1523

DATED 17th July 1931

17-7-1931

[Despatch Abstract.]

Settlement - South Kanara - 1902 - Irregularities
in the working out of commutation rates - Memorandum
of Mr. Bhat - Papers recorded.

MEMORANDUM SHOWING THE MISTAKES IN THE SETTLEMENT OF
1902 WHICH HAVE EFFECTED SOUTH KANARA PREJUDICIALLY.

1. The principal classes of soils in the presidency are ^{Canals} (1) irrigated delta within which come the deltas of Kavery Godavari Thambraparni etc and which have an yeild of 1400 madras measures of paddy per acre. (2) The 2nd class is called irrigated non-delta. This has got a yeild of 1000 to 1200 madras measures of paddy per acre. (3) The 3rd class is what is called as a non-irrigated non-delta which has got a yeild of 1000 madras measures of paddy per acre. (4) In the 4th class ~~are~~ comprised those lands which are rain - fed and partly irrigated by non-government works of irrigation. This class of lands are those which are comprised in the District of South Kanara and the 1st ^{Taram} ~~class~~ lands out of this class has an annual yeild of 1120 imperial seers of paddy (which is ^{Crop} equivalent to 746 madras measures,) as per experiments conducted by Mr. Krishnamurthi Iyengar and others and confirmed by Mr. M.E. Couchman.

2. Still the South Kanara District gazette supplement special dated 6th November 1902 would show in column 2 of the wet table ~~as~~ given therein that 1120 imperial seers of paddy given in column 3 therein is ^{wrongly shown as} equivalent to 1000 madras measures ^{for} ~~from~~ the 1st taram soil. One madras measure is 1 and half imperial seers and therefore 1120 imperial measures cannot be 1000 madras measures and the correct ^{seers} ~~equivalent~~ figure should be 746 madras measures. Besides the crop experiments show that the figures in column 3 are correct (vide scheme report G.O. 757) but not the equivalent in ^{Still} madras measures. But the sanctioned rates in column 10 of the ^{wet} ~~Taram~~ table of the said notification in the South Kanara District gazette supplement are the figures arrived at for

the wrong and incorrect out turn in column 2 and not ~~in~~ ^{for the} ~~correct out turn in~~ column 3. Column 2 therein happens to be not the out turn of the 4th class of rainfed and partly irrigated lands like those of South Kanara but of the 3rd ^{class} above said namely non-irrigated non-delta. class

3. The crop experiment figures justify the correction from 1000 madras measures to 746 madras measures for wet 1 Taram 1, the proper rate for which would be Rs 4 and not Rs 7 cre as per the principals laid out in the settlement notification and for lower tarams it would be correspondingly lower. The incidence is enormous the lower the Taram which can be seen if properly worked out.

4. ^{Second} The said big error is in column 4 of the wet table: ^{Commutation} The competition rate arrived at is incorrect (vide para 12 of the notification). This para 12 says that in all years

in which rice was dearer than 12 seers per rupee have been omitted ". This means that famine year prices have been excluded, but actually the figure 21 4 adopted, of ^{seers} seers per rupee works out to famine rates. The confusion has been made by saying that years in which rice was dearer than 12 seers per rupee have been omitted but actually the figure for paddy has been adopted and 21.4 of paddy seers per rupee equivalent to 10 7 seers of rice per rupee is adopted and this 10.7 seers per rupee is the average of the four famine years between 1879 to 1900. Therefore the result is 1120 imperial seers of paddy will bring out only ^{Rs 31.8.9 instead of} Rs 41-8-0 according to the principals laid down in para 12 of the notification.

5. On account of these two mistakes which are purely mistakes of calculation the ryots of South Kanara have been very prejudicially effected and they have been paying all these years over 80 percent more as land revenue than what they ought to have paid. As a matter of fact the assessment rates in South Kanara are far heavier than the best lands in Tanjore

or such other districts , while the out-turn per acre is far less, than those. The case for South Kanara therefore is one for reduction of the assessment and not for enhancement. In any event if the present rate is enhanced the ryots of South Kanara would be justified not only in stoutly opposing the same but also in ~~the~~ refusing to pay it in the above circumstances. Properly speaking the Government should refund the excess amount which they have been taking all these years from the ryots.

M a n g a l o r e. }
8th. March . 1931. }

h c p k h u

Letter No 1063E 31-1 Dy

To

27331

~~Sett~~ Mr. C. Subramaniam

Asst. Secy. to Govt.

~~Mr.~~

Sir,

Settlement Scheme

Report

and Notification - 2000

Your memorandum dated

8.3.31

I am directed to
acknowledge the receipt
of your memorandum
dated above and to
say that it is under
consideration -

Yours

1063E
16331
R.K.
28/3/31

23/3/31

27/3/31

Dates

27331

D.P.	Val
27.2.31	6
D.P.	
27.2.31	

or such other districts , while the out-turn per acre is far less, than those. The case for South Kanara therefore is one for reduction of the assessment and not for enhancement. In any event if the present rate is enhanced the ryots of South Kanara would be justified not only in stoutly opposing the same but also in ~~the~~ refusing to pay it in the above circumstances. Properly speaking the Government should refund the excess amount which they have been taking all these years from the ryots.

M a n g a l o r e. }
8th. March .. 1931. }

h. c. P. Khan

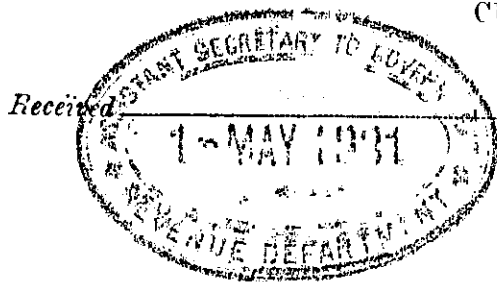
Doc. N^o 1063 E 31. 2. of 27331
Settlement - Settlement
ment South Kanara -
Errors & Settlements -
Memorandum from Mr. C. S.
Bhat M. L. C. of 8. 3. 31.

A copy of the
Memorandum dated 8. 3. 31
from Mr. C. S. Bhat M. L. C.
South Kanara, alleging
that certain mistakes
affecting South Kanara
prejudicially were committed
in the Settlement of 1902,
is forwarded to the
Board of Rev for report
at an early date.

14/11/31
27/3/31

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

CURRENT No. 1611E



19 . Registered 1-5-31. 19

22/5/31

Subject.

Settlement - Resettlement - (Kanara South) - Errors in settlement
Memorandum from Mr. C.S. Bhatt M.L.C.

ENCLOSURES.
No.
Spare copies

Reference No. F.1764/31-2

Station Madras Dated the 25th April 1931

To A.S.
Subd for personal.
2. The Board's Report
may be awaited till
1-7-31.
1/5/31

Revised From
25-31
Resolution
Reference.

Land Revenue.

The Board of Revenue, ~~Revenue~~ Settlement, ~~etc~~
~~Separate~~ ~~Revenue~~

C.A. Souter Esq., I.C.S.,
Commr. of Land Rev. & Sett.

Read the following:-

Government Memorandum No. 1063-E/31-2, dated 29-3-1931.

Letter from W.R.S. Sathianathan Esq., I.C.S., Special
Settlement Officer, No. IV Party, Cannanore, No. R.O.C.
143/B&C-31-1, dated 20-4-1931.

REFERENCE.

The Special Settlement Officer's report is awaited.

(Chaman) 28.4.31
Asst. Secretary.

To the Special Settlement Officer, No. IV Party.

Copy to the Secretary to Government, Revenue Department.

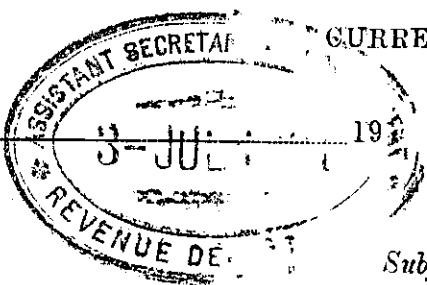
Copy of letter from W.R.S. Sathianadhan Esq., I.C.S.,
Special Settlement Officer, No. IV Party, No. R.O.C. 143/B&C
-31-1, dated 20-4-1931:-

Reference:- Board's Reference No.F.1764/31-1, dated 1-4-1931.

Mr. Bhatt M.L.C. the sender of the memorandum referred
to above had a talk with me and has asked me for a month's time
to explain his memorandum in full. I have fixed the 14th of
May 1931, as the hearing date and will submit my report soon
after.

W
R.S.
—

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Received  CURRENT No. 2134 E Registered 3.7.31 19
 Subject. *£2 on 3/7/31*

Settlement- Resettlement- South Kanara- Memorandum from
 Mr. C.S. Bhat, M.L.C.- Remarks submitted.

ENCLOSURES.
 No.
 Spare copies.....

Mis. No. 2042.

Station Madras. Dated the 29th June 1931. 19

From

Land Revenue.
 The Board of Revenue, Revenue Settlement, etc.
Separate Revenue.

C.A.Souter Esq., I.C.S., Commr. of Land Revenue and Settlement.

Resolution
Reference.

Read the following paper:-

Memorandum from Government, Revenue Department, No.1063 E/31-2,
 dated 27th March 1931.

Resolution.

A. copy of the report of the Spl. Settlement Officer,
 No. IV Party No.D.Dis. 65/31, dated 14th May 1931 is submitted to
 Government with reference to their Memorandum No.1063/E.31-2,
 dated 27th March 1931.

2. The allegations of Mr. Bhat do not require serious
 consideration.

(True Extract)

Chamaiah
 2.7.31

Asst. Secretary.

ary to Government, Revenue Dept.,
 of the Spl. Sett. Officer's report.

Letter from W.R.S. Sathianadhan Esq., I.C.S., Special Settlement Officer, Party No.IV, D.Dis. No. 65 of 1931, dated 14th May 1931.

Settlement- Resettlement- South Kanara- Errors in Settlement- Memorandum from Mr. C.S. Bhat, M.L.C. dated 8th March 1931- Board's Refce.No.F. 1764/31-1, dated 1st April 1931.

I have the honour to submit my report on the above memorandum. The delay in reporting is due to the fact that Mr. Bhat, M.L.C., after a conversation with me, requested me to grant him time for a month to explain his memorandum and this was granted to him as reported by me to the Board in my R.O.C. No.143/B & C. 31-1, dated 20th April 1931. Unfortunately Mr. Bhat did not appear on 14-5-31 the date fixed for the interview.

Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the memorandum.

Mr. Bhat has chosen to divide the principal classes of wet soils in the Presidency into four classes according to the yield in Madras measures per acre and has placed the wet lands in South Kanara in the 4th or lowest class. He states that the yield in this 4th class for 1st taram lands is 1120 imperial seers of paddy according to crop experiments conducted by the settlement staff at the last settlement and goes on to add that 1120 imperial seers of paddy are equal to 746 Madras measures. The memorialist has no authority for dividing the wet lands in the Presidency into 4 classes; he has no authority for placing the wet lands of the South Kanara district in the 4th of these classes, and the ~~xx~~ outturns he has quoted for each of his 4 classes is not backed by recognised figures and goes counter to the figures furnished in table No.3 of the Revised Settlement Tables for the Madras Presidency published in 1905.

According to the last settlement notification for^{the} South Kanara district the wet lands of the district are divided into 3 classes and these classes are defined in paragraph 5 of the notification.

Mr. Bhat argues that the sanctioned^{ed} wet rates found in column 10 of the table in paragraph 12 of the notification have been arrived^{at} on the assumption that the outturn for 1st taram wet lands is 1000 Madras measures, that, 1120 imperial seers of paddy (found in column 3) is only equal to 746 Madras measures at the rate of 1 Madras measure to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ imperial seers. The memorialist's conversion rate of 1 Madras measure to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ imperial seers for paddy is wrong will be seen from the table given below taken from page 2 of B.P. No. 289 dated 12th February 1887:

The equivalent of 3,200 Madras measures or one garce
Rice 1st sort is 4768.52 imperial seers;
Rice 2nd sort is 4800 imperial seers
Paddy 1st sort is 3581.64 imperial seers
Paddy 2nd sort is 3580.68 imperial seers.

The proportion of 1 Madras measure to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ imperial seers rates only to rice 2nd sort; whereas, the proportion for the average of 1st and 2nd sort paddy (which has been adopted calculating outturns and money rates at the last settlement

$$1 \text{ to } \frac{3581.64 + 3580.68}{2} \times \frac{1}{3200} \text{ or } 1.12$$

If this conversion rate is adopted, and I submit that it is correct rate to adopt, 1120 imperial seers of paddy will be 1,000 Madras measures of paddy and not to 746 Madras measures contended by Mr Bhat.

Paragraph 3 of the Memorandum.

The memorialist, assuming that 1120 imperial seers are equal only to 746 Madras measures of paddy, argues that the highest rate for 1st taram wet lands in the district should be Rs. 4/- and not Rs. 7/- No comment is necessary as 1120 imperial seers of paddy are actually equal to 1,000 Madras measures figure given in the notification.

Paragraph 4 of the Memorandum.

Mr. Bhat then quotes paragraph 12 of the Settlement notification as follows:-

"All years in which rice was dearer than 12 seers to the rupee have been omitted. He argues that this has not been done as the average of paddy of 21.4 seers adopted actually works out at famine rates as 21.4 seers of paddy per rupee is equivalent to exactly half the number of seers of rice or 10.7 seers of rice a rupee and this is a famine rate, dear^{er} than 12 seers a rupee. I submit that the memorialist's idea that 21.4 seers of paddy are equal to 10.7 seers of rice is absolutely wrong and has no basis whatever. The memorialist seems to have confused a weight measure with a volume measure and thus arrived at totally wrong conclusions. I admit that a quantity of dry paddy measuring X in volume when threshed comes approximately to 1/2 X in volume of rice, but a quantity of dry paddy measuring X in weight when threshed does not come to 1/2 X in weight. I find the following figures in B.P. Press No. 110 dated 19th Decr. 1929 (Board's quarterly volume for the quarter ending December 1929):-

South Kanara district.

Price of rice 2nd sort 6.6 imperial seers a rupee.

Price of paddy 1st sort 10.1 imperial seers a rupee.

Price of paddy 2nd sort 11.2 imperial seers a rupee.

Average for paddy 10.7 imperial seers a rupee.

This clearly and conclusively shows that the number of imperial seers of rice a rupee is not equal to half the number of imperial seers of paddy a rupee. I have worked out the figures and find that the price of one Madras measure of rice is approximately equal to that of 2 Madras measures of paddy. I believe that Mr. Bhat has confused volume with weight measures and that his arguments are therefore valueless.

11 3-5 out
Paragraph 5 of the Memorandum.

This is a general paragraph in which Mr. Bhat, assuming that the figures and arguments he has given in the previous paragraphs are correct, states that the ryots of South Kanara have been prejudicially affected by being made to pay an assessment over 20 per cent more than they should have done, that the assessment at resettlement should therefore be reduced and not increased, and that, properly speaking, the Government should refund the excess amount which they have taken unjustly from the ryots of all these years. Comment is unnecessary. I only wish to state that Mr. Bhat's contention that South Kanara is more heavily assessed than even the best lands in Tanjore and other districts is simply not true.

Endorsement by the Collector of South Kanara, D.
is. No.3662/31, dated the 1st June 1931.

Submitted.

I agree with the Special Settlement Officer.

Letter No. 1063 E/31-3 dated 13-7-31.

TB

M.R.G. H.C. Subramana

Bhatt B.L. M.L.C.

Yakil, Mangalore

Sir,

Settlement - South Kanara

- Commutation rates -

Determination Irregularities

Your memorandum of 8-3-31

and this dept letter No 1063 E

of 27-3-31

With reference to your memorandum referred to above I am directed to inform you that the Govt have found on enquiry that ~~there were no~~ ^{mistakes were committed} ~~irregularities~~ in the fixing of the Commutation rates at the original settlement of the South Kanara dt. The Govt do not therefore consider it necessary

Take any further action in
the matter

LB
7.7.31
P.K.
7/7/31

ML
92.11
H.L.
107 21

Copy to the Board of Gen.
(with ref to Bd Mis 2042
29-6.31)
p100

Form with fields: "Date by", "Dpt's initials", "Date". Includes handwritten date "7/7/31" and "1932".

[CN. 1063E/31]

JP
B.P. No 289 7/12-2-1887
G.O. No 857 Revd 25-8-1902
G.O. No 917 Revd 9-10-1902
G.O. No 328 Revd 22-3-1954
G.O. No 982 Revd 9-11-1905

Settlement-Re-settlement-South Kanara-Mistakes at
the Original settlement-Memorandum from C.S.Bhat dated
8-3-1931.

Secretary's order at page 1 C.F.
Examine

H.R.P.

To Under Secretary

10-3-1931.

Please see the memorandum prepared
by Mr. C.S.Bhat, M.L.C., South Kanara.

2. In the memorandum he has referred to
two mistakes committed at the time of the original
settlement in the South Kanara District- Viz.,

(i) in the conversion of Madras Measures to
Imperial Seers in the wet rate statement in para 12
of the Notification published in G.O.No. 917 Rev.
dated 9-10-1902; and

(ii) in arriving at the commutation rate in col.4
of the same table.

He has stated that on account of these two mistakes
the ryots of South Kanara have been paying 80% more
as land revenue than what they ought to have paid. He
has accordingly suggested that at re-settlement there
can be no case of enhancement of assessment ^{and that} ~~and that~~ on
the other hand there is ^{only} ~~a~~ case for reduction in the
rates. The errors referred to by Mr. Bhat are examined
below :-

3. Error in the conversion of Madras Measures
into Imperial Seers. According to the conversion
table approved by the ^{Board} ~~Government~~ the number of seers
in a garce of 3200 Madras Measures is different for
the different grains. While the number of seers in a
garce of 3200 Madras Measures of rice second sort is
4,800 (i.e. ~~1 M.M.~~ 1 M.M. = $1\frac{1}{2}$ imperial seers as
stated by Mr. Bhat in the Memo) the number of seers
in a garce of 3,200 Madras Measures of 1st and 2nd
sort paddy is 3,581.16. It will thus be seen that for
(the grain referred to in para 12 of the Memo in (A))
paddy 1st and 2nd sort, 1 M.M. will not be equal to

1½ imperial seers. 1,000 M.M. of paddy 1st and 2nd sort work out to 1119.1 imperial seers or ~~1x22x~~ 1,120 imperial seers as shown in the statement at page 7 of G.O. in (A). Mr. Bhat ~~xxxxx~~ is thus not correct in saying that there was an error in the conversion of M.M. into imperial seers.

4. Error in the calculation of the commutation rate.

The commutation rate has been worked out with reference to the price of paddy. Please see para 89 of the scheme report at pages 66-67 of G.O.No. 757 Revenue dated 25-8-1902 and para 12 at page 6 of G.O. in (A). In the following sentence in paragraph 12

" In making the above calculation all years in which rice was dearer than 12 seers to the rupee have been omitted "

presumably the word 'rice' is a slip for 'paddy' as all the calculation appears to have been made with reference to paddy only. Except for this slip there does not appear to be any mistake in the actual calculation of the commutation rate with reference to the price of paddy.

5. Any how as stated by H.M. in his speech in connection with the general discussion of the Budget the allegations should be examined in connection with the re-settlement proposals. The question will thus have to be examined by the S.S.O. while submitting his scheme report for the re-settlement of the district. The memo may therefore be sent to the S.S.O. for examination and the ~~M.L.C. may be informed~~, receipt of the memo may be acknowledged and the M.L.C. ^{may} be informed that it will receive due consideration.

6. A draft endt. and a draft letter are submitted for approval.

the hydra. Early. The longer a criticism
of this kind goes unrefuted these days, the
harder ~~harder~~ it becomes for Govt to refute it
eventually. The whole tribe of M.L.C.s
is again the Govt in matters of re-
settlement, & fairly jump at the
chance of challenging a Settlement officer's
data. To keep the reputation up Govt's
sleeve until later will be to lose a
valuable chance of nipping this criticism
in the bud.

W.H.
S. 23/3/21

~~Order to issue~~ ^{draft} the draft letter may issue
Two drafts for approval

26/3/31
PK.
26/3/31

26/3/31

27/3/31

(Issued as Letter No. 1063 E/31-1 of 27.3.31) - p 7 CF
(Issued as Memo No. 1063 E/31-2 of 27.3.31) - p 9 CF
[C/O 16/11 E/31] from the Board of Rev (L.Rs).
Ref F. 1764/31-2 of 25.4.31 } H 11-12 CF
[C/O 2/34 E/31] - do H 2042 of 29-6-1931. H 13-18 CF

To: under-secy.

In his memorandum at H 1-5 CF,
Mr. C. S. Bhatt M.L.C. representing the
S. Kanara dt. brought to the notice of
the Govt. what in his opinion were
certain irregularities in the fixing of
the Commutation rates in the
original settlement of the S. Kanara dt.
in 1902. In his opinion the 1902 settlement
has resulted in the ryots paying to
the Govt. much more than their due
share and that consequently there

para 5 p 3 CF

The remarks of the Board of Rev on the memorandum which were since obtained will be found at pp 13-18 of. The Board has obtained from the S.S.O Mr. Tr. party now working in the South Kanara dt, a detailed report on the allegations contained in the memorandum presented by Mr. Bhatt. The S.S.O. also reports that Mr. Bhatt had an interview with him on the subject. It will be observed from the S.S.O's report that Mr. Bhatt is not correct in the conclusions drawn by him. The Board states that the allegations of Mr. Bhatt do not require further consideration. It is ordered that the only communication should go to Mr. Bhatt on the subject and if so whether he may be told that the Govt. have found enquiry that there were no irregularities in the fixing of the original Commutation rates. Subject to order a Draft letter is sent for approval. ~~for~~ It appears unnecessary to explain to Mr. Bhatt in detail how his calculations are incorrect as this would have been done by the Govt. (In this connection attention is ~~not~~ solicited to H.M.'s speech at the time of budget discussion in March last when H.M. promised

to make an inquiry into the
allegations of Mr. Sheet)

PK
7.7.31 The draft letter to Mr. Sheet
may be approved

PK
7/7/31

PK
9.7.31
S